

5101266

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

3539 PCTA-1 05 OCT 2003

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau(43) International Publication Date
13 November 2003 (13.11.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 03/092676 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **A61K 31/36**
- (21) International Application Number: **PCT/US03/12496**
- (22) International Filing Date: **23 April 2003 (23.04.2003)**
- (25) Filing Language: **English**
- (26) Publication Language: **English**
- (30) Priority Data:
60/376,147 29 April 2002 (29.04.2002) **US**
- (63) Related by continuation (CON) or continuation-in-part (CIP) to earlier application:
US 60/376,147 (CIP)
Filed on 29 April 2002 (29.04.2002)
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- (81) Designated States (*national*): **AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.**
- (84) Designated States (*regional*): **ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).**
- Published:**
— *with international search report*
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(54) Title: **COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR PREVENTING ABUSE OF ORALLY ADMINISTERED MEDICATIONS**

(57) Abstract: Disclosed herein is the use of chemical irritants, such as vanilloid receptor-1 agonists, in sustained/controlled release pharmaceutical preparations which also contain a drug typically having high abuse potential. Inclusion of the VR1 agonist in the pharmaceutical preparation interferes with illicit or inappropriate dosing without significantly interfering with the action of the therapeutic. Also disclosed are exemplary co-formulations of capsaicin (a VR1 agonist) and oxycodone (an opioid therapeutic having high abuse potential) in controlled release preparations.

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